

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 5, 2011

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 4

Introduced by Assembly Member Miller
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Jeffries and Bonnie Lowenthal)

February 3, 2011

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 4—Relative to the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AJR 4, as amended, Miller. Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act.

This measure would memorialize the President of the United States and the Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation to award a federal Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act loan guarantee to enable the timely construction of the State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project in the interest of economic competitiveness of California and the United States.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The Transportation Infrastructure Finance and
2 Innovation Act (TIFIA) program was created by the United States
3 Congress to provide credit assistance to nationally or regionally
4 significant surface transportation projects; and
5 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project
6 requires a federal loan guarantee from the TIFIA program to enable
7 *cost-effective* construction of the \$1.3 billion infrastructure project;
8 and

1 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project
2 will be built ~~entirely without state or federal funding, relying solely~~
3 ~~on~~ *primarily with* local revenues; and

4 WHEREAS, The voters of Riverside County, California have
5 twice approved a one-half cent “self-help” sales tax for
6 transportation that includes improvements to State Highway Route
7 91; and

8 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project
9 will be among the largest highway construction projects to
10 commence in the State of California in nearly a decade; and

11 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project
12 is anticipated to provide significant economic benefits to the State
13 of California, including, but not limited to, \$2 billion in economic
14 output throughout the state, labor income totaling over \$778
15 million, \$85 million in increased state and local tax revenues, a
16 permanent increase of 830 jobs per year after construction, and
17 time saved by commuters with a net present value of \$1.5 billion
18 to the California economy; and

19 WHEREAS, Unemployment in areas of California served by
20 State Highway Route 91 has exceeded 15 percent and remains
21 above 14 percent; and

22 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project
23 can begin construction in early 2012 if federal TIFIA financing is
24 received; and

25 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project
26 employs congestion pricing as an innovative tool to manage severe
27 congestion and enable the growth of public transit by bus, rail, and
28 bicycle in a highly constrained, narrow canyon that is the primary
29 route between the inland and coastal regions of southern California,
30 which are inextricably connected to the economic well-being of
31 California; and

32 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project
33 is a product of regional planning and environmental stewardship,
34 including the largest multispecies habitat conservation plan in the
35 United States, comprehensive integrated planning by the County
36 of Riverside in response to rapid urbanization, and a decade of
37 cooperation between Riverside and Orange Counties in regional
38 transportation management and planning; and

39 WHEREAS, It is in the economic interest of the State of
40 California and the United States to encourage local investment in

1 nationally and regionally significant infrastructure, create jobs in
2 near and long term, and improve the quality of life for
3 hard-working families and businesses who rely on major highways
4 such as State Highway Route 91 to access employment, customers,
5 and their families; and

6 WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of California has, on
7 two separate occasions, approved legislation on a bipartisan basis
8 to authorize and accelerate the construction of the State Route 91
9 Corridor Improvement Project; now, therefore, be it

10 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*
11 *California, jointly*, That the Legislature of the State of California
12 memorializes the President of the United States and the Secretary
13 of the United States Department of Transportation to award a
14 federal TIFIA loan guarantee to enable the timely construction of
15 the State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project in the interest
16 of economic competitiveness of California and the United States;
17 and be it further

18 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
19 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
20 States, to the Speaker of the United States House of
21 Representatives, to the Majority Leader in the Senate, to each
22 Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the
23 United States, to the Secretary of United States Department of
24 Transportation, and to the author for appropriate distribution.